

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY-PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY-PARISH OF LAFAYETTE, STATE OF LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 2, 2005.

ATTENDANCE

COUNCIL: Randy Menard – Chair (District 9), Rob Stevenson – Vice Chair (District 8), Bobby Badeaux (District 1), Dale Bourgeois (District 2), Christopher J. Williams, Ph.D. (District 3), Louis C. Benjamin, Jr. (District 4), Lenwood Broussard (District 5), Bruce Conque (District 6), Marc Mouton (District 7)

ABSENT: None

COUNCIL STAFF: Norma Dugas (Clerk of the Council), Veronica Williams (Assistant Clerk) and Anne Patin (Senior Administrative Assistant)

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF: L. J. Durel, Jr. (City-Parish President), Dee Stanley (CAO), Becky Lalumia (Associate CFO), Gail Smith (Director of Administrative Services), Chief Randy Hundley (Police Department), Chief Robert Benoit (Fire Department), Eleanor Bouy (Director of Planning, Zoning and Codes), Gerald Boudreaux (Director of Parks & Recreation), Terry Huval (Utilities Director), Melanie Lewis (Director of Community Development), Tom Carroll (Public Works Director), Pat Ottinger (Legal Counsel), Tony Tramel (Director of Transportation), Keith Thibodeaux (CIO)

COMMENCEMENT

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(124) AGENDA ITEM NO. 1: Call to order.

Councilmember Randy Menard called the Regular Council Meeting of August 2, 2005 to order.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(125) AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chair called upon Councilmember Marc Mouton to give the invocation and then lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(148) Menard announced that Budget Hearings would begin August 3, 2005 to review the Planning, Zoning and Codes budget at 5:30 p.m., August 4, 2005 to review the Recreation and Parks budget at 3:00 p.m. and August 8, 2005 to review the Traffic & Transportation budget at 3:30.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(161) AGENDA ITEM NO. 3: **EXECUTIVE/PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

President Durel reported the following:

- Called upon Gerald Boudreaux, Director of Parks & Recreation, to recognize Frank Wittenberg, Athletic Coordinator, who was elected President of the State Recreation and Parks Association.
- Justin Williams was also recognized as a participant in the National Hershey Track and Field Championship. Williams set the state record in the 100-yard dash.
- Called upon Bobby Cormier, Assistant to the President, to recognize the Police and Sheriff’s Departments personnel regarding the “National Lights Out” program. Durel presented a proclamation.
- Asked the Council to consider naming the Lafayette airport after the late Mayor J. Rayburn Bertrand.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(398) AGENDA ITEM NO. 4: **REPORTS AND/OR DISCUSSION ITEMS**

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(400)

a. Recognize Douglas Guidry regarding Monroe Subdivision conditions.

Williams presented pictures of the different violations in this subdivision. He stated that these violations have been placed in the RFS system and was brought up at this meeting to highlight the problems. He then thanked Public Works for their diligence.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE A)(431)

- b. Report from Marcus Bruno regarding property in 1000 block of 9th Street – drugs and criminal activity.

Bruno reported that there were seven properties in the abatement process. Five of the properties have removed the problem for cause of abatement. The other two, the 9th Street apartments and another location on St. Antoine St., are still in the process. Management for the apartments, J. Alfred Mouton Management, has made improvements and evicted residents, however; the court date will still hold.

Benjamin stated that his main concern was to eradicate the criminal activity so this area can have a quality of life. He referred to a nine-page report for this area from the Police Department. He requested that something be done within the next five days. Bruno reminded Benjamin that this is a civil proceeding and certain things have to be done in order to get the proper person in court in order to adjudicate the property.

He then requested that this issue be placed on the agenda for the third meeting of each month until the problem is resolved.

Williams asked if there was a need for additional resources for addressing these cases. Bruno answered that if it regards nuisances such as drugs or prostitution, State law prevails and it can be followed. But if it involves other nuisances such as environmental or housing, there are not enough resources. With regard to legal resources, Ottinger added that there was enough manpower to address the legal issues.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE B)(006)

- c. Status on federal train regulations with reference to quiet zones.

Tramel reported that there is a new set of rules and regulations which permit the establishment of a “quiet zone” in a community, however; with it goes a whole set of rules, regulations and issues associated with same. He listed several conditions to implement a “quiet zone” adding that once these conditions were met, proof must be shown that Lafayette is below the national risk factor. Finding similarity with Lafayette, New Braunfels, TX, has already completed a preliminary analysis and found it will cost between \$100,000 to \$300,000 per crossing. With over 35 crossings in Lafayette, based on the same approach as New Braunfels, it will cost \$10,000,000 to create a “quiet zone” in Lafayette. He then recommended no further pursuit of this effort. Williams requested that a copy of Tramel’s report be given to Denise Marceaux, resident of District 6.

Upon questioning by Williams, Tramel explained the “wayside horn”. The train itself would not sound its horn upon reaching a crossing, however; a horn directed toward the street would signal approach of a train. This device can be installed if there is the ability to have 4-quadrant gates at a crossing (and other criteria) and silence the train at that particular location.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE B)(090)

- d. Country Acres Apartments gang and drug activity problems.

Williams requested that a Request for Service be sent regarding the gang and drug activity at the Country Acres Apartment. Bruno explained that a meeting has been set up with Charlie Jones, owner of the property, to establish a line of communication. This is a HUD-subsidized location and they have been contacted. He added that 292 Requests For Service were called in through the past year.

Williams requested that Bruno contact the constituent who requested this agenda item to notify them of the meeting.

(TAPE 1)(SIDE B)(136)

- e. Update on small and emerging businesses by Jessica Walton.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Total Payments</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
April	\$220,647.39	2.54%
May	\$162,765.53	2.6 %
June	\$ 89,032.72	1 %

Williams requested that in future reports Ms. Walton provide, a hard copy of the report to the Council.

Carroll reported that before coming up with a definitive solution, Public Works requested information from the designing consultant, who did Albertson's Parkway, regarding the 60" pipe crossing to see what criteria was used to develop that size pipe. Public Works has taken cross sections of the channel from Albertson's Parkway back to Holiday Gardens and there are some areas that are in need of cleaning (800 to 1,000 feet out of the 5,000 feet of the reach). The consultant's information showed that that cross drain was designed for a 50-year, 24-hour storm. Once it is determined that the cross drain is adequate, Public Works will begin cleaning of the channel and/or make improvements to the crossing. He added that the Corps of Engineers, in conjunction with F.E.M.A., who are developing new digital form flood information maps for Lafayette, is doing a master comprehensive drainage program for Lafayette Parish, which includes 21 channels. The Corps has done all of the initial cross sections of the coulee and now they have developed hydrologic model, which is the drainage areas. In the meantime, LCG will continue to move forward on this issue with hopes of using any information the Corps of Engineers can provide.

Andrew Hebert asked why there was not a joint City-Parish canvass of returns on the 1992 election for consolidation when, presently, there is a joint Council/LPUA meeting to canvass the returns on an election regarding fiber to the home.

Having exhausted his 3 minutes, an objection was given by Broussard to allow Hebert additional time to speak and the Chair called for the vote:

YEAS: Bourgeois, Williams, Conque, Mouton

NAYS: Badeaux, Benjamin, Broussard, Stevenson, Menard

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Motion to grant additional time failed.

ADJOURN

(TAPE 1)(SIDE B)(750) There being no further business to come before the Council, Chair Menard declared the Regular Council Meeting adjourned.

NORMA A. DUGAS, CLERK
LAFAYETTE CITY-PARISH COUNCIL